



<p><u>Count 1</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism for use in an automatic transaction system, the coin mechanism comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>coin tubes for storing respective denominations of coins;</li> <li>a dispenser for dispensing coins from the coin tubes; and</li> <li>a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</li> </ul> <p>and that is arranged to be coupled to a controller in the automatic transaction system so as to receive dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller,</p> <p>wherein the processor is configured to accumulate a value corresponding to the received dispense signals</p> <p>and to cause at least one coin to be dispensed from the coin tubes based on the accumulated value.</p>	<p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 1</u></p> <p><b>1. In a vending machine . . . , the improvement comprising:</b></p> <p><b>a coin changer including</b></p> <p><b>four coin tubes, each coin tube storing one coin denomination therein</b></p> <p><b>and having coin payout means associated therewith,</b></p> <p><b>the coin changer further including processing means . . . associated therewith, the processing means operably connected to the coin payout means of each coin tube,</b></p> <p><b>the processing means connected to the three coin tube interface lines of the vending machine controller so as to receive signals therefrom, . . .</b></p> <p>The preamble of claim 1 recites: <b>In a vending machine including a controller . . . , the controller operable to determine an amount of change . . . and to produce at least one signal on one of the coin tube interface lines so as to attempt to payout the determined amount of change, . . .</b></p> <p><b>so that for a given plurality of signals received on three coin tube interface lines, the processing means assigns a value to each signal . . . such that all assigned values are accumulated . . .</b></p> <p><b>and the processing means is operable to effect production of a plurality of signals in attempt to payout coins having respective values which sum to an amount substantially corresponding to the accumulated value . . .</b></p>
<p><u>Count 1</u></p>	<p>Claims 2-7 of U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and include the limitations of that claim.</p>

	<p>See claim 1 above.</p> <p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 8</u></p>
<p><u>Count 1</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism for use in an automatic transaction system, the coin mechanism comprising:</p> <p>    coin tubes for storing respective denominations of coins;</p> <p>    a dispenser for dispensing coins from the coin tubes; and</p> <p>    a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</p> <p>and that is arranged to be coupled to a controller in the automatic transaction system so as to receive dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller,</p> <p>wherein the processor is configured to accumulate a value corresponding to the received dispense signals</p> <p>and to cause at least one coin to be dispensed from the coin tubes based on the accumulated value.</p>	<p><b>8. A coin changer installable in a vending machine . . . the coin changer comprising:</b></p> <p><b>M coin tubes, each coin tube storing one coin type therein . . .</b></p> <p><b>coin payout means associated with each coin tube,</b></p> <p><b>and processing means operatively connected to each of the coin payout means,</b></p> <p><b>the processing means configured for connection to each of the N coin tube interface lines so as to receive coin payout signals therefrom,</b></p> <p>The preamble of claim 8 recites a coin changer “<b>installable in a vending machine which includes a controller . . . N coin tube interface lines connected to the controller, the controller operable to produce coin payout signals on the N coin tube interface lines . . .</b></p> <p><b>the processing means operable to accumulate a change payout amount in response to coin payout signals received from the N coin tube interface lines,</b></p> <p><b>the processing means operable in combination with the coin payout means of each coin tube to effect payout of coins therefrom, . . . , wherein, if the accumulated change payout amount is greater than the predetermined amount, the processing means is operable to first attempt to payout coins having respective values, which sum to a predetermined payout amount, and to decrease the accumulated change payout</b></p>

	<b>amount by the predetermined payout amount.</b>
Count 1	<p>Claims 9-14 of U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 depend directly or indirectly from claim 8 and include the limitations of that claim. See claim 8 above.</p>
<p><u>Count 1</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism for use in an automatic transaction system, the coin mechanism comprising:</p> <p>coin tubes for storing respective denominations of coins;</p> <p>a dispenser for dispensing coins from the coin tubes; and</p> <p>a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</p> <p>and that is arranged to be coupled to a controller in the automatic transaction system so as to receive dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller,</p> <p>wherein the processor is configured to accumulate a value corresponding to the received dispense signals</p>	<p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 15</u></p> <p>Claim 15 of U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 is a method claim corresponding to apparatus claim 1.</p> <p><b>15. A method of paying out change from a vending machine including . . . a coin changer . . . , the coin changer including</b></p> <p><b>a plurality of coin tubes each storing one coin denomination therein</b></p> <p><b>and having coin payout means associated therewith,</b></p> <p>The method of claim 15 includes steps (b), (c) and (d) that are performed “within the coin changer.” A processor is, therefore, inherent within the claimed coin changer.</p> <p><b>(a) transmitting a plurality of signals from the controller to the coin changer,</b></p> <p>The preamble of claim 15 recites <b>A method of paying out change from a vending machine including a controller and a coin changer associated therewith so as to receive signals therefrom, . . .</b></p> <p><b>(b) assigning, within the coin changer, a value to each of the transmitted signals,</b></p> <p><b>(c) accumulating, within the coin changer, the assigned values of the transmitted signals, and</b></p>

<p>and to cause at least one coin to be dispensed from the coin tubes based on the accumulated value.</p>	<p><b>(d) producing, within the coin changer, at least one signal which effects payout of at least one coin from one of the plurality of coin tubes.</b></p>
<p>Count 1</p>	<p>Claims 16 and 17 of U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 depend directly or indirectly from claim 15 and include the limitations of that claim. See claim 15 above.</p>
<p><u>Count 1</u></p> <p>A coin mechanism for use in an automatic transaction system, the coin mechanism comprising:</p> <p>coin tubes for storing respective denominations of coins;</p> <p>a dispenser for dispensing coins from the coin tubes; and</p> <p>a processor that is coupled to the dispenser</p> <p>and that is arranged to be coupled to a controller in the automatic transaction system so as to receive dispense signals from the automatic transaction system controller,</p> <p>wherein the processor is configured to accumulate a value corresponding to the received dispense signals</p> <p>and to cause at least one coin to be dispensed from the coin tubes based on the accumulated value.</p>	<p><u>U.S. Patent No. 5,733,186 Claim 19</u></p> <p><b>19. A coin payout mechanism installable in a vending machine . . . , the coin payout mechanism comprising</b></p> <p><b>M coin tubes, each coin tube storing one coin type therein, . . . ,</b></p> <p><b>coin payout means associated with each coin tube, and</b></p> <p><b>processing means operably connected to each of the coin payout means,</b></p> <p><b>the processing means configured for connection to each of the N coin tube interface lines so as to receive signals therefrom,</b></p> <p>The preamble of claim 19 recites that the vending machine controller is connected to the coin tube interface lines: <b>a controller . . . , N coin tube interface lines connected to the controller, the controller operable to produce signals on the N coin tube interface lines, . . .</b></p> <p><b>the processing means operable to accumulate a change payout amount in response to signals received from the N coin tube interface lines,</b></p> <p><b>and the processing means operable in combination with the coin payout means of each coin tube to effect payout of coins therefrom.</b></p>